



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 4 October 2016
(OR. en)

12758/16

Interinstitutional Files:

2010/0323 (NLE)
2010/0322 (NLE)

WTO 270
STIS 6
COEST 244
NIS 4

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft Council Decision on the conclusion of a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, of the other part, amending the Agreement in order to extend the provisions of the Agreement to bilateral trade in textiles, taking account of the expiry of the bilateral textiles Agreement - Approval of the Croatian language version

1. On 31 January 2011, the Council adopted the Decision on the signing, on behalf the European Union, of a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, of the other part, amending the Agreement in order to extend the provisions of the Agreement to bilateral trade in textiles, taking account of the expiry of the bilateral textiles Agreement (doc. 16382/10 WTO 375 STIS 15 COEST 352 NIS 130), together with the Protocol itself (doc. 16388/10 WTO 379 STIS 19 COEST 356 NIS 135).

2. After the signature of the Protocol in Tashkent on 7 April 2011, the Council, on 14 April 2011, transmitted to the European Parliament the request for its consent on the basis of the existing linguistic versions of the draft Council Decision on conclusion and the Protocol. At the time, this did not include the Croatian language versions.
3. So far, the European Parliament has not yet given its consent, pending a favourable report from the ILO on child labour conditions. The European Parliament has now indicated that it will soon proceed to a vote on consent to the conclusion of the Protocol, for which it requires all language versions of the draft Council Decision on conclusion and the Protocol itself, including Croatian.
4. The Croatian language versions of the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol, as well as the Protocol itself, are now available. Consequently, the Permanent Representatives' Committee is invited to suggest that the Council, at one of its forthcoming sessions:
 - approve the Croatian language version of the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, of the other part, amending the Agreement in order to extend the provisions of the Agreement to bilateral trade in textiles, taking account of the expiry of the bilateral textiles Agreement, as finalised by the Legal/Linguistic experts and set out in document 16384/10 (hr) WTO 377 STIS 17 COEST 354 NIS 132;
 - approve the Croatian language version of the Protocol, as finalised by the Legal/Linguistic experts and set out in document 16388/10 (hr) WTO 379 STIS 19 COEST 356 NIS 135;
 - decide to transmit the Croatian language versions of the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol and the Protocol itself to the European Parliament with a view to its consent.